

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Dec. 20, 2002

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State Park Fees Increase Jan. 1

SACRAMENTO – Fees at California State Parks will increase beginning on Jan 1, 2003, Department officials announced today.

The fee increase is in response to the state's budget crisis, the worst since World War II. However, even with the fee increase, State Park fees remain lower than they were prior to 2000-01. In 2000-01, before the economic downturn, State Park fees were reduced.

Those campers who already have made reservations for 2003 will not pay the higher camping fee. The new fee schedule will apply to reservations made after the start of the new year.

Following is the general rate schedule for the most common California State Park fees:

- **Day-Use:** Regular day-use fees will range between \$2 and \$5. Currently they range up to \$3. Before 2000, they ranged up to \$6.
- **Camping:** Basic camping fees will be \$13, compared to the current \$12. The previous rate was \$14. Additional fees will be re-established for extras. For instance, the parking fee for additional vehicles will be re-instituted at the day use rate and will apply regardless of the date of reservation. Other additional fees include those for premium sites (\$4) and during peak seasons (\$3) in most locations.
- **Boat Launching:** Boat launching fees are re-established, ranging from \$2 to \$4. They were eliminated two years ago. Before that, they were generally \$6.
- **Annual Passes:** The annual day use pass is increased to \$67 from the current \$35. The rate prior to 2001 was \$75. An annual boat launching pass will be re-established at a price of \$45 – \$5 below the prior rate. The day use fee, or an annual day use pass, will still be required when using the annual boat launching pass.
- **Museums and Historic Parks:** The adult entrance fee to historic parks and museums will range from \$2 to \$4. It currently is \$1 to \$3. The Experience Tour at Hearst Castle®, which includes a film, will be \$9 for children and \$18 for adults. Regular daily tours will be \$7 for children and \$12 for adults. The cost of those tours have been \$7 and \$14, and \$5 and \$10, respectively.

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